

Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report 3 May 2012

Top Stories

- A plant in Canadian, Texas, that processes about 80 million cubic feet of natural gas daily closed after a fire and explosion. It was not known May 1 when the plant would reopen. –
 Associated Press (See item 1)
- Officials arrested a man in Portland Oregon, suspected of soliciting more than \$100 million in bogus donations from people in 41 states. *Cleveland Plain Dealer* (See item 11)
- A big rig carrying highly explosive chemicals overturned May 2 near Winnie, Texas, prompting an evacuation of some residents and the closure of a major highway. KHOU 11 Houston; KFDM 6 Beaumont (See item 16)
- A New York City man was convicted of plotting with two of his former high school classmates to strap on bombs and blow themselves up at rush hour on Manhattan subway lines. *Associated Press* (See item <u>18</u>)
- The April freeze that destroyed countless apple blooms will easily cost growers in western North Carolina millions in lost fruit, officials said. – Asheville Citizen-Times (See item 25)

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Energy Sector

Current Electricity Sector Threat Alert Levels: <u>Physical</u>: LOW, <u>Cyber</u>: LOW Scale: LOW, GUARDED, ELEVATED, HIGH, SEVERE [Source: ISAC for the Electricity Sector (ES-ISAC) - [http://www.esisac.com]

1. *May 1, Associated Press* – (Texas) **Nobody hurt in Texas Panhandle gas plant explosion.** A fire linked to an explosion that closed a natural gas processing plant in Canadian, Texas, burned itself out. May 1, a spokesman for Eagle Rock Energy Partners L.P. said nobody was hurt in the accident at the Phoenix-Arrington Ranch plant. He said about a dozen contract workers and employees of Houston-based Eagle Rock were at the plant when the explosion happened. A company investigative team will try to determine what caused the blast. The damage is in the inlet header system, or the main receipt point for raw natural gas. There were no further details May 1 on damage or when the plant will reopen. The unit processes about 80 million cubic feet of natural gas daily.

Source: http://www.businessweek.com/ap/2012-05/D9UG1GLG0.htm

Source: http://www.krdo.com/news/30986465/detail.html

2. May 1, KRDO 13 Colorado Springs – (Colorado) Trailer carrying wind turbine rolls, closes Pueblo Blvd. Pueblo Boulevard in Pueblo, Colorado, was closed from Hollywood to Vinewood May 1. A tractor-trailer rig was hauling a section of wind turbine tower, weighing about 68 tons, westbound on Pueblo Blvd., and rolled over. Police said one end of the tower section hit the pavement, causing it to roll with the trailer. A Vestas official told police it appeared the tractor-trailer driver did not secure two cables on the rear part of the trailer. He said those cables are designed to keep the load secure if it begins to move. There was only damage to the roadway and trailer. Pueblo police, Pueblo fire, Vestas personnel, and Colorado Department of Transportation personnel responded. The closure lasted for several hours while cranes lifted the tower section so it could be moved to another trailer.

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Chemical Industry Sector

3. May 2, Salt Lake Tribune – (Utah) Crews off-load ethanol loads from derailed tanker cars in Provo. Rail workers labored through the night May 1 and into May 2 to transfer ethanol from three derailed tanker cars in Provo, Utah. No spillage of the fuel was reported. The Provo deputy fire chief said crews initially had planned to pump the fuel from the toppled train cars into tanker trucks, but decided late May 1 to transfer the loads into three similar, empty tanker cars. He said the tanker cars were part of a longer train hauling various military vehicles and other chemicals. Utah Railway, which operates the affected section of tracks, confirmed it still had workers on the scene May 2, but officials did not immediately respond to inquiries as to the cause of the accident. Source: http://www.sltrib.com/sltrib/news/54032448-78/cars-tanker-derailed-provo.html.csp

4. May 2, Associated Press – (Massachusetts) GE balks at paying \$1.56M bill from the EPA. General Electric Co. (GE) is contesting a \$1.56 million bill from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for work associated with the Housatonic River cleanup in Pittsfield, Massachusetts, the Associated Press reported May 2. GE said in a 16-page letter to the EPA that it should not have to pay because the company has already paid the maximum amount for so-called "oversight" costs. The 1999 agreement on the cleanup of PCB-contaminated sites in Pittsfield and the river caps GE's oversight payments at \$11 million. The EPA was not classifying \$1.56 million as oversight costs. Instead, the agency said the bill falls under an uncapped category. An EPA spokesman told the Berkshire Eagle that the agency and GE are in discussions to resolve the dispute out of court. PCBs, or polychlorinated biphenyls, are suspected carcinogens that GE discharged into the river until 1977. Source:

http://www.boston.com/news/local/massachusetts/articles/2012/05/02/ge_balks_at_paying_156m_bill_from_the_epa/

5. *May 1, Panama City News Herald* – (Florida) **Arizona Chemical blaze briefly shuts street, plant.** A fire at the Arizona Chemical plant in Springfield, Florida, shut down the facility and a nearby street for about 1 hour May 1. The fire began in a wastewater basin and sent plumes of smoke into the air that could be seen from downtown Panama City, and emergency crews shut down U.S. Business 98 to deal with the fire. The road was reopened shortly after the fire was put out. An Arizona Chemical spokesman said no dangerous material was released. The deputy chief of Bay County Emergency Services said the fire had a "minimum impact" on the environment and added that the impact would have lasted only as long as the fire was burning. The products inside the wastewater basin "are not really that toxic," he said. Arizona Chemical makes many products, including adhesives, rubber, and tires.

Source: http://www.newsherald.com/articles/fire-102380-mill-paper.html

6. May 1, Environmental Protection – (New York) EPA takes action to stop sales of illegal pesticides. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) issued legal complaints against two Brooklyn, New York stores for violating federal pesticides law by selling and distributing illegal pesticides, according to Environmental Protection May 1. Products used to kill pests must be registered with the EPA to ensure they will not make people sick and contain labels with instructions on proper use. In September 2011, EPA inspections of two establishments, Man Li Trading, Inc. and Hong Kong Supermarket revealed they were selling various pesticide products that were not registered Among the unregistered products were mosquito repellants, various types of mothballs, and a toilet bowl cleaner. Pesticides have been linked to various illnesses in humans, ranging from skin and eye irritation to cancer. Some pesticides may also affect the hormone or endocrine systems. The inspections that led to the two legal actions targeted stores in Brooklyn, Manhattan, and Queens. During these inspections, 350 illegal pesticide products were confiscated. Earlier in 2012, orders were issued to Man Li and Hong Kong to stop the sale of the pesticides discovered during the inspections. Source: http://eponline.com/articles/2012/05/01/epa-takes-action-to-stop-sales-ofillegal-pesticides.aspx

7. *May 1, Ogden Standard-Examiner* – (Utah) **Father, son sentenced over Bugman's unlawful use of pesticide.** The owner and president of Bugman Pest and Lawn Inc. of Bountiful, Utah, and his son entered guilty pleas May 1 concerning the unlawful use of Fumitoxin, a registered pesticide, the Ogden Standard-Examiner reported May 1. The son pleaded guilty to one one count of using the pesticide improperly between August 1, 2009, and August 27, 2009, as an employee of his father's company. He was placed on 12 months probation and ordered to complete 100 hours of community service. The owner of Bugman was sentenced to 3 years probation, which runs concurrently with another federal sentence. In January, he was sentenced to 3 years probation. In that case, the owner pleaded guilty on behalf of the company to one count of unlawful use of a registered pesticide. The charges stem from Fumitoxin improperly used at a Layton, Utah home February 5, 2010. Officials said the misuse of Fumitoxin caused the deaths of two young girls.

Source: http://www.standard.net/stories/2012/05/01/father-son-sentenced-over-bugmans-unlawful-use-pesticide

For more stories, see items 16, 26, 27, and 46

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Nuclear Reactors, Materials and Waste Sector

- 8. May 2, Associated Press (International) Aerial Greenpeace protester strikes at French nuclear site, dropping smoke bomb on reactor. An environmental activist was arrested May 2 after dropping a billowing smoke bomb onto the roof of a French nuclear reactor ahead of a key presidential election debate, Greenpeace and French police said. Video footage from the stunt captured the airborne activist on a motorized paraglider after he dropped the smoke bomb at the Bugey site east of Lyon. The man was arrested after descending to the ground. A Greenpeace nuclear spokesman said that the spectacle was meant to stimulate a political debate on nuclear power.

 Source: http://www.washingtonpost.com/business/aerial-greenpeace-protestor-strikes-at-french-nuclear-site-dropping-smoke-bomb-on-reactor/2012/05/02/gIQA3hj4vT_story.html
- 9. May 1, Associated Press (Washington) Hanford nuclear reservation tanks for radioactive waste failed requirements. The Department of Energy and a contractor building a waste treatment plant at the nation's most contaminated nuclear site in Hanford, Washington, procured and installed tanks that did not always meet requirements of a quality assurance program or the contract, a federal audit concluded April 30. The audit also found the agency paid the contractor a \$15 million incentive fee for production of a tank that was later determined to be defective and while it demanded the fee be returned, never followed up to ensure that it was. The tanks' design is significant because they will be located in so-called "black cells," which are areas of the plant that will be too radioactively hot for workers to enter once the plant is operating. The audit focused on tanks that were received and installed prior to mid-2005. No tanks of similar design were received since then. Source:

http://www.oregonlive.com/environment/index.ssf/2012/05/hanford_nuclear_reservation ta 1.html

10. May 1, Wilmington News Journal — (New Jersey) NRC: Dust may have triggered false fire alarms at Salem. Airborne dust was an early suspect in an unusual event declaration that followed an accidental shutdown April 30 at the Salem Unit 1 nuclear reactor in Lower Alloways Township, New Jersey. A Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) report released May 1 said safety systems at one point indicated a fire inside the reactor's containment structure, resulting in a lockout that delayed workers from entering the area and ruling out any fire. The NRC report said, "PSEG believes the trip/safety injection may have caused pipe shaking that resulted in dust being stirred up near fire-detection equipment and led to the false fire alarms." A NRC spokesman said the agency was reviewing the incident to determine if it warrants classification as a more-serious type of operating mishap.

Source: http://www.delawareonline.com/article/20120501/NEWS/120501027/NRC-Dust-may-triggered-false-fire-alarms-Salem?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|Home&nclick_check=1

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Critical Manufacturing Sector

Nothing to report

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

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Banking and Finance Sector

11. *May 2, Cleveland Plain Dealer* – (Ohio; National) **Man accused of running fake U.S.**Navy veterans charity arrested. A man who once conferred with Washington, D.C.'s political elite on behalf of a bogus veterans' charity was arrested April 30 in Portland, Oregon, by U.S. marshals from northern Ohio. He collected millions of dollars that authorities said he fleeced from donors to the U.S. Navy Veterans Association. He disappeared in 2010 when investigators first started closing in. His real name is still unknown. Members of the task force tracked the man as he traveled to at least eight states. Late May 1, a judge in Portland ordered the man sent to Cuyahoga County, Ohio, where he was first indicted, a U.S. marshal said. The man is charged with fraud, aggravated theft, corrupt activity, identity theft, and money laundering. The Ohio attorney general said the man solicited donations in 41 states. Reported estimates of those donations reached upwards of \$100 million. The Ohio attorney general said the man collected nearly \$2 million from Ohioans from 2005 to 2010. Authorities said he

ran the charity out of Tampa, Florida, listing fictitious officers of state chapters with false addresses and fake testimonials and used a string of bank accounts and rented mailboxes. The woman who handled Ohio donations for the charity pleaded guilty to theft and other charges in June 2011.

Source:

http://www.cleveland.com/metro/index.ssf/2012/05/man_suspected_of_running_bogus.html

12. *May 1, Associated Press* – (North Dakota) **Defendants agree to plea deal in N.D. bank fraud case.** A former North Dakota bank vice president and her husband signed plea agreements in a scheme to bilk hundreds of thousands of dollars from trust accounts, the Associated Press reported May 1. Court documents accused the former vice president of defrauding Bank of the West customers out of nearly \$800,000 while she was working as a trust officer. The woman and her husband are facing federal charges of conspiracy to commit bank fraud. The plea agreement in the criminal case calls for Bank of the West to be paid back \$790,893. The fraud dates back to 2001, according to court documents.

Source: http://www.jamestownsun.com/event/article/id/159975/group/News/

13. *May 1, Dow Jones Newswires* – (Puerto Rico; National) **UBS Puerto Rico unit to pay** \$26.6 million to settle fraud charges. UBS AG's Puerto Rico unit agreed to pay \$26.6 million to settle fraud charges leveled by the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) against the financial services unit and two of its executives, Dow Jones Newswires reported May 1. The vice chairman and former chief executive as well as the head of capital markets for UBS Financial Services Inc. of Puerto Rico was previously accused of misleading investors, concealing a liquidity crisis, and masking control of the secondary market for 23 proprietary closed-end mutual funds. A UBS spokeswoman said in a statement UBS estimated any realized losses incurred by investors who bought fund shares through UBS during the 2008-09 period and sold them were less than \$5 million. As of March 31, the aggregate market capitalization of the funds was almost \$5 billion, she said.

Source: http://www.foxbusiness.com/news/2012/05/01/ubs-puerto-rico-unit-to-pay-266-million-to-settle-fraud-charges/

14. *May 1, KABC 7 Los Angeles* – (California) **'Explosives Threat Bandit' arrested.** The FBI arrested the so-called "Explosives Threat Bandit," suspected in a string of bank robberies in the West Covina and West Hollywood, California areas. He was arrested by the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) and charged in an eight-count indictment returned by a federal grand jury May 1. In each case, the suspect left a fake bomb behind and threatened to blow the bank up. After every robbery, a bomb squad rendered the device safe. The arrest was the culmination of a joint investigation with Santa Monica Police, the Los Angeles Sheriff's Department, the LAPD, Baldwin Park Police, and El Monte Police.

Source:

http://abclocal.go.com/kabc/story?section=news/local/los angeles&id=8643533

Transportation Sector

15. May 2, BBC News – (International) North Korea jamming' hits South Korea flights. Jamming signals thought to be from North Korea have affected GPS navigation on at least 250 flights, BBC News reported May 2. Nine South Korean and nine foreign airlines were affected since April 28, the South Korean Transport Ministry said. The flights had to rely on alternative navigation systems but were in no danger, the ministry added. The south has accused the north — with which it remains technically at war — of similar incidents in the past. "We've confirmed the GPS jamming signals have been stemming from the north," the deputy director at Seoul's Korea Communications Commission said. He said there was "no serious threat to the safety of flights because planes are using other navigation devices".

Source: http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-asia-17922021

16. May 2, KHOU 11 Houston; KFDM 6 Beaumont – (Texas) I-10 closed in both directions after big rig carrying explosive chemicals overturns. A big rig carrying highly explosive chemicals overturned May 2, prompting an evacuation of some residents in Winnie, Texas. The tank ruptured, causing methanol alcohol to leak from the trailer after it flipped ab out 10 miles west of Beaumont. Two compartments ruptured on the fully-loaded tanker, causing 1,500 gallons of methanol alcohol to leak from the trailer. The dangerous chemical – which is an irritant to the eyes, lungs and skin — can cause breathing problems. A shelter-in-place for nearby Hampshire Fannett High School was issued, and residents within a 2-mile area of the accident site were asked to evacuate. Both directions of I-10 were shut down for most of the day until HAZMAT crews could clear the scene. According to KFDM 6 Beaumont, the truck driver was transported to a hospital.

Source: http://www.khou.com/news/local/Shelter-in-place-issued-after-big-rig-carrying-explosive-chemicals-overturns-in-Winnie-149822405.html

17. *May 2, Associated Press* – (Ohio) **Storm aftermath causes snags for SW Ohio traffic.** Motorists were dealing with the aftermath of strong thunderstorms that swept across southwest Ohio, causing pockets of power outages. Sections of numerous side roads remained closed May 2, including just off Interstate 275 in the northern Cincinnati suburb of Sharonville. High water caused I-75 northbound in Cincinnati to close May 1, but all interstates were open by May 2. Flood warnings were in effect for the Little Miami River area near Mason and Milford, and for the Mill Creek area just north of Cincinnati. Lightning strikes were suspected of causing three minor residential fires across the region.

Source: http://www.onntv.com/content/stories/apexchange/2012/05/02/oh--severe-weather-ohio.html

18. *May 1, Associated Press* – (New York) **NYC man convicted in thwarted subway bomb plot.** A man was convicted May 1 of plotting an aborted suicide mission against New York City subways in 2009 — a case that featured the first-time testimony from admitted homegrown terrorists about al-Qa'ida's fixation with pulling off another attack on American soil. A jury found the man guilty of all counts for his role in the terror plot. The government's case was built on the testimony of four men: two other

men from Queens who pleaded guilty in the subway plot, a British would-be shoe bomber, and a man originally from Long Island who gave al-Qa'ida pointers on how best to attack a Walmart store. Both were former high school classmates of the convicted man and told jurors the scheme unfolded after the trio traveled to Pakistan in 2008. They were encouraged to return home for a suicide-bombing mission intended to spread panic and cripple the economy. Among the targets considered were the New York Stock Exchange, Times Square, and Grand Central Terminal, the men testified. In a later meeting, the plotters decided to strap on bombs and blow themselves up at rush hour on Manhattan subway lines.

Source: http://www.bnd.com/2012/05/01/2161212/nyc-man-convicted-in-thwarted.html

- 19. *May 1, Ohio News Network; WHIO 7 Dayton* (Ohio) **Several bus tires deflated; schools delayed.** Xenia Community Schools and St. Brigid School in Xenia, Ohio, were on a 2-hour delay after someone deflated tires on several district buses overnight. Early May 1, an assistant transportation coordinator and another staff member discovered more than half of the buses had the left front tires deflated. She said the tires were deflated with a pen. Crews worked to get the buses back in operation. About 3,000 students were affected by the delay.
 - Source: http://www.onntv.com/content/stories/2012/05/01/story-bus-vandalism.html
- 20. *May 1, Maui Now* (Hawaii) **Copper thefts leave H3 call boxes inoperable.** The Hawaii State Department of Transportation (DOT) is seeking the public's help in stopping new thefts of copper wiring on the H-3 Freeway, Maui Now reported May 1. DOT officials said electrical copper wiring on the H-3 Freeway was cut sometime in late April. The incident was reported on the Halawa-side of the tunnels, near the Halawa Interchange. As a result, the damage rendered all emergency call boxes and six traffic monitoring cameras on the Halawa-side of the tunnels inoperable. Fiber optic communications cabling was also cut, affecting control over electronic message boards that are used to display tunnel lane closure information on the Halawa-side. The copper wiring in several conduits was also cut, but not taken. Police reports were filed and repairs to the wiring are pending.

Source: http://mauinow.com/2012/05/01/copper-thefts-leave-h3-call-boxes-inoperable/

For more stories, see items 2, 3, 5, and 46

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Postal and Shipping Sector

Nothing to report

Agriculture and Food Sector

- 21. May 2, Agence France-Presse (International) New foot-and-mouth disease strain spreads from N. Africa: UN. The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) in Rome, Italy, said an outbreak of the SAT2 strain of foot-and-mouth disease (FMD) was found in Rafah in the southern part of Gaza Strip on the border with Egypt. The FAO was sending 20,000 vaccine doses immediately, Agence France-Presse reported May 2. "If FMD SAT2 reaches deeper into the Middle East it could spread throughout vast areas, threatening the Gulf countries even southern and eastern Europe, and perhaps beyond," said the FAO's chief veterinary officer. He said vaccines against the SAT2 virus were in short supply. He also said the immediate priority should be to limit the movement of animals to prevent the highly infectious disease from spreading further. The agency said it would send an extra 40,000 vaccine doses to Gaza as soon as possible. It said Israel already implemented a targeted vaccination program. Source: http://medicalxpress.com/news/2012-05-foot-and-mouth-disease-strain-africa.html
- 22. *May 2, Food Safety News* (National) **Puppy formula part of expanded Diamond Pet Foods recall.** Diamond Pet Foods expanded a recall to include Diamond Puppy Formula dry dog food after sampling revealed Salmonella in the product, Food Safety News reported May 2. The recalled Diamond Puppy Formula dry dog food was manufactured at Diamond Pet Foods' plant in Gaston, South Carolina, and distributed in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Maryland, Michigan, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Virginia. The product may have been further distributed to additional states through pet food channels. The company said it was working directly with distributors and retailers that carry these products to remove them from the supply chain.

 $Source: \underline{http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2012/05/puppy-formula-part-of-expanded-\underline{diamond-pet-foods-recall/}$

23. May 1, London Free Press – (International) Hard freeze hits fruit crops. In Canada, Ontario's growing season was over for some farmers before it really began after a killing freeze, London Free Press reported May 1. Apple growers and other fruit farmers took a hit in many areas when temperatures plunged to minus five degrees Celsius and colder April 26 and April 27. Wheat farmers were still waiting to find out how badly their crop was damaged by the weather. Summer-like temperatures early in the spring brought apple blossoms and other crops on early. In some orchards, the freeze left no viable blossoms. The general manager of the Norfolk Fruit Growers' Association said the full extent of the damage to apple and pear crops in the Norfolk area was not yet known. At Heeman's strawberry in London, workers irrigated the crop through the freezing nights when temperatures dipped. The irrigation saved the June crop of berries from any serious damage, although there was some damage to the everbearing strawberry crop, said an official.

Source:

 $\frac{http://www.lfpress.com/news/london/2012/05/01/19703626.html\#/news/london/2012/05/01/pf-19703621.html}{5/01/pf-19703621.html}$

24. *May 1, Sioux City Journal* – (Iowa) **Official: Fertilizer loader started Hornick, Iowa, fire.** A fertilizer fire gutted a rural Woodbury County, Iowa agricultural building May 1. The fire sparked at grain merchandiser Western Iowa Cooperative in Hornick. The co-op general manager said a neighbor reported the fire after seeing a fertilizer loader on fire inside the building. He said someone tried unsuccessfully to extinguish the flames. Firefighters had the fire under control within 1 hour. The Woodbury County Emergency Management director said he believed some type of malfunction caused the loader to catch fire. The fire leveled the building and sent a thick plume of smoke downwind into the town. The Woodbury County Sheriff's Office temporarily asked nearly 250 residents to evacuate the town due to air quality concerns. The general manager said the building, which stored phosphorus-based fertilizer, was 90 percent empty due to the start of the growing season.

Source: http://siouxcityjournal.com/news/local/state-and-regional/official-fertilizer-loader-started-hornick-iowa-fire/article_e12e84fc-55ee-5c21-b03f-009e97afce13.html

25. May 1, Asheville Citizen-Times – (North Carolina) Apple crop freeze will cost **Henderson County growers millions.** The April freeze that destroyed countless apple blooms will easily cost growers in western North Carolina millions of dollars in lost fruit, the Asheville Citizen-Times reported May 1. Experts do not want to put an exact percentage on the crop loss, but some growers said it could approach 50 percent. Henderson County is the state's top apple-producing county, with 5,000 acres in orchards that typically produce a crop worth about \$24 million. An unusually warm March spurred trees to bloom early, leaving them susceptible to the freeze. The director of the Henderson County office of the N.C. Cooperative Extension Service said he is "leery of giving a percentage" of the overall loss but termed it "substantial." The losses will easily reach into the millions of dollars, he said. "Some growers don't have any fruit, some growers have got some fruit, and in some blocks there's a full crop," he said, adding that all growers were touched by the freeze at least somewhat. "We had a few growers who used overhead irrigation system for frost protection, and that did help." The county also has about 150 acres of blackberries, typically grown by apple farmers, and they were "hit hard" too, the director said.

Source: http://www.citizen-times.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=2012305020038

26. May 1, Associated Press – (New York) **OSHA cites Sorrento Lactalis on chemical safety.** Federal safety inspectors cited a Buffalo, New York cheese factory for 13 violations of workplace safety standards and proposed \$241,000 in fines, the Associated Press reported May 1. The U.S. Labor Department's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) said Sorrento Lactalis Inc.'s plans for managing potentially hazardous ammonia at the facility were inadequate. The company said it will contest the findings. The OSHA said inspectors found Sorrento, which uses the ammonia in its refrigeration process, lacked procedures and tests to maintain the integrity of its equipment. It said the company was cited for the same issues in the past at an Idaho plant.

Source: http://online.wsj.com/article/AP284e6f1670e2421dbe92c7204ae2f64c.html

For another story, see item 46

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Water Sector

27. May 2, Associated Press – (Oregon) Work beginning on \$10M project to protect Portland Harbor from old chemical plant pollution. Work began on a \$10 million project to stop pollution from a former chemical plant in Portland, Oregon, from reaching the Willamette River, the Associated Press reported May 2. DDT and rocket fuel were produced at the 54-acre Akema site from 1941 to 2001 that is now part of a Superfund cleanup site on Portland Harbor. The Portland Oregonian reported the work being managed by the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality includes an underground wall to contain contaminated groundwater and a stormwater collection and treatment system.

Source:

http://www.therepublic.com/view/story/b993fe7c97064f78916fed94520edb25/OR--Portland-Harbor-Cleanup/

28. May 2, White Plains Journal News – (New York) United Water agrees to \$40,000 penalty for improper pesticide use in Lake Deforest Reservoir. United Water New York agreed to a civil penalty of \$40,000 for improperly applying pesticides to the Lake Deforest Reservoir under the terms of a consent order with the New York Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC), the agency said May 2. United Water New York owns and operates the reservoir, a major drinking water supply for thousands of Rockland homes and businesses. United Water failed to follow three critical provisions of the state's pesticides law in the use of copper sulfate to effectively treat algae in the reservoir, the DEC said. The company applied copper sulfate later in the year than allowed by regulation, the applications were too frequent to be in compliance with the regulation, and the company failed to maintain accurate and complete pesticide records on site, the DEC said. United Water agreed to pay \$23,250 of the penalty with the balance of \$16,750 suspended contingent upon compliance with the requirements of the consent order, the DEC said.

Source: http://www.lohud.com/article/20120502/NEWS03/305010100/United-Water-agrees-40-000-penalty-improper-pesticide-use-Lake-Deforest-Reservoir?odyssey=mod|newswell|text|News|p&nclick_check=1

29. *May* 2, *WUSA* 9 *Washington*, *D.C.* – (Maryland) Water main break affecting areas of Prince George's Co. A break in a 16-inch pipe located in an unpopulated industrial park of Hyattsville, Maryland, left hundreds of Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (WSSC) customers in Prince George's County without water May 2. A spokeswoman for WSSC said they were first alerted to the problem when their call center received approximately 250 complaints of low or no water pressure within 4 hours from several areas including Hyattsville, Cheverly, Seat Pleasant, and Capitol Heights. WSSC crews searched for several hours to locate the break. WSSC crews were preparing to shut down the main and begin repair work, and officials said customers should expect low or no water pressure until completion.

Source: http://www.wusa9.com/news/article/204160/189/Prince-Georges-Co-Plagued-By-Water-Problems

30. May 2, Knoxville News Sentinel – (Tennessee) Oak Ridge faces \$171,000 EPA fine, avoids far higher amount. According to the Knoxville News Sentinel May 2, negotiations reduced what could have been \$4 million to \$5 million in fines and penalties for the city of Oak Ridge, Tennessee for violations of the federal Clean Water Act to a settlement of \$171,000. The federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) compiled a list of about 200 incidents where the city's wastewater collection system overflowed during a 5-year period before September 2010, the public works director said. The EPA sent an administrative order requiring the city to make vast improvements to its antiquated sewer system to end the overflows. Before the EPA order, the city had been spending \$1 million a year for 15 years to upgrade its sewer lines. Hefty increases in sewer rates for the city's 13,000 customers will pay for the \$18 million in needed sewer system upgrades and the EPA fine.

Source: http://www.knoxnews.com/news/2012/may/02/oak-ridge-faces-171000-epa-fine-avoid-far-higher/

For another story, see item 4

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Public Health and Healthcare Sector

31. *May 2, Hackensack Record* – (New Jersey) Carbon monoxide forces evacuation of patients and staff at Saddle River hospice. The Villa Marie Claire hospice in Saddle River, New Jersey, was evacuated May 1 after high readings of carbon monoxide were detected in the building's basement, a borough official said. Eleven patients and four staff members were transported to a hospital as a precaution said the borough's deputy emergency management coordinator. The carbon monoxide reading in the building when emergency personnel arrived was 5,000 parts per million (ppm). A carbon monoxide level between 0.5 and 5 ppm is considered safe for a home, according to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Firefighters and first aid squads from at least five towns responded to the 3-story building. About 55 firefighters were assisted by the Bergen County HAZMAT unit and crews from the Public Service Electric and Gas Co. The problem apparently stemmed from a furnace in the basement; the boilers in the basement were shut down. Emergency crews were "pushing" fresh air into the building to eliminate the carbon monoxide. The hospice was to be shut down until it was safe for patients and employees to return.

Source:

http://www.northjersey.com/news/Carbon_monoxide_forces_evacuation_of_patients_a_nd_staff_at_Saddle_River_hospice_.html?page=all_

For another story, see item <u>35</u>

Government Facilities Sector

- 32. *May 1, KGTV 10 San Diego* (California) **Reports of bombs, shooter at Mar Vista HS prompts lockdowns.** A May 1 report of a shooter and multiple bombs at an Imperial Beach, California school prompted two school lockdowns and an investigation by multiple law enforcement agencies. San Diego County Sheriff's Department officials said they received two separate calls that indicated a rooftop shooter and several bombs were on the campus of Mar Vista High School. Imperial Beach Elementary School was also locked down due to the possible threat. Students were released to Veterans Park about 45 minutes later. Several law enforcement departments searched a 1-mile radius for a possible shooter, but no one posing a threat was found. Authorities cleared the scene after searching both schools for any explosive devices. Authorities did not disclose whether they found anything dangerous. Source: http://www.10news.com/news/30988313/detail.html
- 33. *May 1, Sonoma State Star* (California) **Explosive discovered in residence hall.** A homemade incendiary explosive device was thrown through the kitchen window of a residential hall suite at Sonoma State University (SSU) in Rohnert Park, California, April 25, resulting in acid damage to the kitchen. According to a resident of the Tuscany village suite, the device was a 2-liter Coca-Cola bottle with aluminum foil and toilet bowl cleaner inside. The university's communications office sent out an e-mail from the SSU police chief explaining what happened. The e-mail stated there was an active investigation of the incident, but the event appeared to be isolated. Source: http://www.sonomastatestar.com/news/explosive-discovered-in-residence-hall-1.2866088#.T6E odmtrRQ
- 34. *April 30*, *WSAW 7 Wausau* (Wisconsin) **Gilman man accused of planning to kill judge, DA, and detective.** A man was taken into custody April 26 after Taylor County, Wisconsin authorities said he planned to a use a bomb to kill a judge, a district attorney, and a detective. He remains behind bars on a \$25,000 bond after deputies conducted a search of his home and car and discovered items used to make explosive devices. According to a news release, he had already created one explosive device and planned to detonate it at the Taylor County courthouse. He also stated he knew where the detective lived and planned to follow him home to detonate a bomb there. The Price County district attorney is handling the case.

http://www.wsaw.com/news/headlines/Gilman Man Accused of Planning to Kill Judge_DA_and_Detective_149564285.html?ref=285

For more stories, see items 3, 16, and 19

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Emergency Services Sector

35. *May* 2, *KTXS* 12 *Sweetwater* – (Texas) **Storm slams into Knox City, damages hospital.** Thunderstorms hit Knox City, Texas, April 30 and left a trail of damage to

the roof of the Knox County Hospital along with a 9-1-1 communication tower. 9-1-1 dispatchers were able to use a back up tower located east of town. The thunderstorms struck across a wide area of the Big Country north of Abilene.

Source: http://www.ktxs.com/news/30987472/detail.html

36. *May* 2, *WRAL* 5 *Raleigh* – (North Carolina) **Durham 911 service restored after outage.** Durham, North Carolina's 9-1-1 service was restored May 2 after an outage that lasted about 2 hours, the Durham Emergency Communications Center said. The director of the center said his staff is seeking an explanation from Frontier officials as to what caused the initial problem.

Source: http://www.wral.com/news/news_briefs/story/11051682/

37. *May 1, Omaha World-Herald* – (Iowa) **Outage blocks 911 service in Iowa towns.** The Iowa communities of Carson, Oakland, and Treynor experienced a phone system outage that prevented citizens from dialing 9-1-1 from a landline May 1, the Pottawattamie County Emergency Management Agency said. Service was restored within 2 hours. County officials said the outage was a phone company problem. Those with an emergency were directed to call 9-1-1 from a cellphone or go to a local fire department, where staff could contact authorities.

Source: http://www.omaha.com/article/20120501/NEWS01/120509983/0

For more stories, see items 20 and 34

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Information Technology Sector

38. May 2, H Security – (International) Firefox add-on exposes visited URLs. A Sophos researcher reported that the ShowIP add-on for Mozilla's Firefox browser sends the URLs of visited Web pages to a Web service called ip2info.org in unencrypted form. Apparently, the browser extension does not restrict this behavior to the normal browsing mode — it also transmits URLs accessed via HTTPS and any sites visited while in "Private Browsing" mode. ShowIP displays the IP addresses (IPv4/IPv6) of the current Web page in the browser's status bar and gives access to querying services. The extension is particularly popular with network administrators and developers; according to Mozilla, the add-on has been installed by nearly 170,000 Firefox users. The described behavior was first observed in version 1.3 of the GPLv2-licensed addon, which was published April 19, and remains in newer releases. Many users complained about the privacy violation on Mozilla's add-on page; the ShowIP Dev Team, the developer of the add-on, responded by explaining that the add-on sends the URL to the server "to access the ip2location database" and promised HTTPS will be added as soon as possible. Mozilla responded by rolling back the available version of ShowIP on the Mozilla Add-ons site to version 1.0, and said it is working with the developer to address the issues.

Source: http://www.h-online.com/security/news/item/Firefox-add-on-exposes-visited-URLs-1565273.html

39. May 2, IDG News Service – (International) Microsoft detects new malware targeting **Apple computers.** Microsoft detected a new piece of malware targeting Apple OS X computers that exploits a vulnerability in the Office productivity suite patched nearly 3 years ago. The malware is not widespread, a researcher from Microsoft's Malware Protection Center said. However, the malware shows hackers pay attention to people not applying patches when fixes are released, which puts their computers at a higher risk of becoming infected. The security update Microsoft released in June 2009, MS09-027, addressed two vulnerabilities that could be used by an attacker to gain remote control over a machine and run other code. Both vulnerabilities could be exploited with a specially-crafted Word document. The exploit discovered by Microsoft does not work with OS X Lion, but does work with Snow Leopard and prior versions. The researcher said it is likely attackers have knowledge about the computers they are attacking, such as the victim's operating system version and patch levels. The malware delivered by the exploit is written specifically for OS X and is essentially a "backdoor," or a tool that allows for remote control of a computer. Microsoft advised those who use Microsoft Office 2004 or 2008 for Mac or the Open XML File Format Converter for Mac to ensure those products applied the patch. Source:

http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9226777/Microsoft_detects_new_malware_targeting_Apple_computers

40. May 2, H Security – (International) Oracle makes SSL use in database clusters free. A recent exposure of a vulnerability in current Oracle databases made Oracle issue a new advisory and offer SSL support to particular customers for free. The vulnerability allows an attacker to listen in on database queries and has no appropriate patches. An Oracle blog post provides the background to why the company issued the new advisory — Oracle Security Alert for CVE-2012-1675 directs customers to two support notes, one for customers without Oracle Real Application Clusters (RAC) and one for those with Oracle RAC. For those without RAC, Oracle recommends limiting registration of new listeners to the local node and IPC protocols; instructions are provided in the Oracle Support note "Using Class of Secure Transport (COST) to Restrict Instance Registration." For those with RAC or Exadata, the problem is more complex and the use of COST in those situations also means the use of SSL/TLS Encryption as detailed in the support note. The issue was SSL/TLS encryption was sold at extra cost as Oracle Advanced Security. However, Oracle has now updated its licensing so customers can use the SSL/TLS mechanisms to protect themselves against the vulnerability. With the change in licensing and the availability of an effective workaround, it is unlikely Oracle will be producing a patch for its databases in the near future. Oracle is, however, emphatic that users should fix the problem. The advisory indicates the problem affects Oracle Database 11gR2 11.2.0.2 and 11.2.0.3, 11gR1 11.1.0.7, and 10g 10.2.0.3, 10.2.0.4, and 10.2.0.5. Users of Oracle Fusion Middleware, Enterprise Manager, or E-Business Suite should also be aware of the issue as these products include the vulnerable Oracle Database software.

Source: http://www.h-online.com/security/news/item/Oracle-makes-SSL-use-in-database-clusters-free-1565661.html

41. *May 1, Infosecurity* – (International) **Trusteer finds new ransomware variant.** Ransomware is malware that locks-up computers and demands payment for their release. A common ruse is to pretend the malware is actually a "seizure" by law enforcement agencies. Trusteer recently discovered a new variant. Using the Citadel malware platform — a descendant of the Zeus trojan — the new malware is called Reveton and claims to have come from the U.S. Department of Justice. It locks the computer and displays a warning screen claiming the IP address of the computer was detected accessing child pornography sites. A fine of \$100 is payable. It advises how the payment should be made in order to unlock the computer.

Source: http://www.infosecurity-magazine.com/view/25490/trusteer-finds-new-ransomware-variant/

42. May 1, Krebs on Security – (International) Service automates boobytrapping of hacked sites. One aspect of hacks seldom examined is the method by which attackers automate the booby-trapping and maintenance of their hijacked sites. This is another aspect of the cybercriminal economy that can be outsourced to third-party services. Often known as "iFramers," such services can simplify the task of managing large numbers of hacked sites that are used to drive traffic to sites that distribute malware and browser exploits. A decent iFramer service will allow customers to verify large lists of file transfer protocol (FTP) credentials used to administer hacked Web sites, scrubbing lists of invalid credential pairs. The service will then upload the customer's malware and malicious scripts to the hacked site, and check each link to ensure the trap is properly set. Currently, a huge percentage of malware in the wild has the built-in ability to steal FTP credentials from infected PCs. This is possible because those who administer Web sites often use FTP software to upload files and images, and allow those programs to store their FTP passwords. Thus, many modern malware variants will simply search for popular FTP programs on the victim's system and extract any stored credentials. Some services offer a menu of extras to help customers maintain their Web-based minefields.

Source: http://krebsonsecurity.com/2012/05/service-automates-boobytrapping-of-hacked-sites/

43. *April 30, Threatpost* – (International) **New Flashback variant using Twitter as backup C&C channel.** The latest version of the Flashback malware infecting Macs has a new command-and-control (C&C) infrastructure that uses Twitter as a fallback mechanism in the event the normal C&C system is not available. This version of Flashback, which infects Macs through exploitation of Java vulnerabilities, has the ability to communicate with two separate tiers of C&C servers. The first type is used as a relay for redirecting traffic from compromised machines. Those servers allow the attackers behind the Flashback botnet to hijack Web search traffic and push it to servers they control. The second tier is used to send commands to infected machines to perform specific actions on Macs. Analysts at Dr. Web, a Russian security firm, found that when infected Macs connect to the second type of C&C server, if they do not receive a correctly formatted reply, they will perform a search on Twitter for a specially formatted string.

Source: http://threatpost.com/en_us/blogs/new-flashback-variant-using-twitter-backup-cc-channel-043012

44. *April 30, SecurityWeek* – (International) **Attackers place command and control servers inside enterprise walls.** Skilled attackers are burrowing their command and control (C&C) servers inside the networks of compromised businesses to circumvent security measures, according to a security expert familiar with the innovative new attack method. Trend Micro observed dozens of incidents where these tactics were used. In many cases, the compromised servers being used for C&C were compromised in previous attacks and hackers were able to maintain access, the researcher said. The technique helps attackers remain stealthy as they exfiltrate data, as very little C&C traffic leaves the network. Also, the cyber criminals that conduct these types of attacks were seen applying software patches to the compromised systems to ensure other attackers are kept out and the systems are not potentially red-flagged.

Source: http://www.securityweek.com/new-attack-method-puts-command-and-control-servers-inside-enterprise-walls

For another story, see item 45

Internet Alert Dashboard

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at sos@us-cert.gov or visit their Web site: http://www.us-cert.gov

Information on IT information sharing and analysis can be found at the IT ISAC (Information Sharing and Analysis Center) Web site: https://www.it-isac.org

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Communications Sector

45. *May 1*, *Baxter Bulletin* – (Arkansas) **Internet outage repaired.** An Internet outage affecting Internet users and long-distance telephone service was reported statewide in Arkansas May 1, according to a CenturyLink official. An equipment failure at Hardy caused an Internet interruption in the Twin Lake Area. It initially was reported as a "severe" outage, which disrupted service. A spokesman for CenturyLink said workers were able to locate the problem, repair it, test the repair, and restore service in 33 minutes.

Source: http://www.baxterbulletin.com/article/20120501/NEWS01/120501004/Update-4-35-p-m-Internet-outage-repaired

For more stories, see items 20 and 43

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Commercial Facilities Sector

46. *May 2, Enid News and Eagle* – (Oklahoma) **Plenty of damage, but no deaths in Monday storms.** Crews still were working to clear debris and restore power in several Oklahoma counties, May 2, after a line of storms spawned at least 5 tornadoes and straight-line winds topping 80 miles per hour April 30. The Grant County emergency

management director reported at least two tornadoes touched down near Medford, but the town avoided a direct hit. However, high winds caused damage to several Medford businesses. Homes and power lines were also damaged. In Deer Creek, wind-blown debris knocked the head off of a valve at an anhydrous ammonia storage tank in a tank facility, causing the chemical to leak into the air. County officials issued an evacuation order for the town's 270 residents due to the leak. The order was lifted after about 3 hours when the leak was capped. Additionally, flooding damage from torrential rainfall closed several roads May 1, including parts of U.S. I-81 and Oklahoma Route 11. Source: http://enidnews.com/localnews/x474409530/Plenty-of-damage-but-no-deaths-in-Monday-storms

- 47. *May 2, Associated Press* (Georgia) **Blaze hits backlot streetscape at director's Atlanta studios; no injuries reported.** The structure of a large building at Tyler Perry Studios in Atlanta was fine after part of it ignited and prompted a four-alarm fire response May 1. More than 100 firefighters responded to the fire, and they were able to limit the damage because of the building's masonry construction beneath its outer facade. However, there was some water damage inside. The cause of the fire and the amount of damage to the complex was not immediately known.

 Source: http://www.washingtonpost.com/entertainment/celebrities/ga-firefighters-battle-4-alarm-blaze-at-tyler-perry-studios/2012/05/01/gIQALFqKvT_story.html
- 48. *May 2, KABC 7 Los Angeles* (California) **Truck slams into Sylmar motel; 4 injured.** Four people were injured when a truck slammed into a motel in Los Angeles, May 2. One person was in critical condition, and three others were in fair condition. Rescue crews extricated the driver from the truck. The motel was damaged, but its structural integrity was still intact. The cause of the crash remained under investigation. Source: http://abclocal.go.com/kabc/story?section=news/local/los_angeles&id=8645271
- 49. *May* 2, *WRC* 4 *Washington D.C.* (Maryland) **Arrest made in Silver Spring three- alarm fire.** Montgomery County Fire and Rescue investigators made an arrest in a three-alarm fire that occurred May 1 in Silver Spring, Maryland. Police arrested a man May 2 and charged him with first degree arson. The fire chief said the man voluntarily went to a police station and confessed to starting the fire, during an interview. The initial fire, which destroyed or damaged at least 34 apartment building units, displaced more than 100 people, and caused more than \$1 million in damage. Two firefighters suffered non-life threatening injuries.

Source: http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/47261744/ns/local_news-washington_dc/#.T6FMgNlqHHW

For more stories, see items <u>6</u>, <u>44</u>, <u>50</u>, <u>52</u>, and <u>54</u>

National Monuments and Icons Sector

50. *May 1, National Public Radio* – (Texas) **First major wildfires of 2012 tear through West Texas.** Two massive wildfires scorched more than 23,000 acres of land and continued to burn in west Texas as of May 1, according to the Texas Forest Service (TFS). The fires were burning in roughly the same parts of Jeff Davis County that were scorched in 2011 by the "Rock House Fire," a massive fire that ushered in a year of devastating wildfires throughout the State. The fires, now jointly called the Livermore Ranch Complex Fire, were sparked by lightning April 24. They threaten about 150 permanent residents as well as empty vacation structures in the Davis Mountain Resorts. A TFS spokeswoman said she knew of 50 evacuations so far. The smaller of the 2 fires was 60 percent contained, and the larger fire was 25 percent contained as of late May 1. The larger fire continued to threaten the Davis Mountains Resort. Source: http://stateimpact.npr.org/texas/2012/05/01/first-major-wildfires-of-2012-tear-through-west-texas/

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Dams Sector

- 51. *May 2, Jackson County Floridan* (Florida; Georgia) **Dam flows affected by drought.** The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers planned to limit the release of water from Lake Seminole into the Apalachicola River at Jim Woodruff dam in Jackson County, Florida, as a part of "drought operations," according to the Jackson County Floridan May 2. A minimum flow of 5,000 cubic feet of water per second will be released to protect endangered and threatened species. Reduced releases will continue until lakes on the Apalachicola-Chattahoochee-Flint River system return to acceptable levels. Extreme low flows have driven the composite conservation storage in the Federal reservoirs to the Zone 4 level, which triggers drought operations. Overall conditions on the Flint and lower parts of the Chattahoochee rivers have been in drought since the end of the summer of 2011, according to the release. The drought has also affected other basins, triggering similar lower flow targets on systems such as the Alabama-Coosa-Tallapoosa Rivers for Alabama Power reservoirs.
 - $Source: \underline{http://www2.jcfloridan.com/news/2012/may/02/dam-flows-affected-drought-\underline{ar-3712174/}$
- 52. May 2, St. Louis Post-Dispatch (Missouri) Timetable set to finish Metro East levee work in 2014. Officials announced May 1 that work on a \$161 million project to bring Metro East levees in St. Louis up to federal standards will begin in June and be finished by December 31, 2014. Officials of Madison, St. Clair, and Monroe counties joined forces to fix the levees under threat of new federal maps that would label the Mississippi River flood plain at high risk of flooding, resulting in inhibited development and raised insurance costs. To avoid that reclassification, the levees must be restored and strengthened to protect against a 100-year flood. The flood plain, called the American Bottom, is home to about 156,000 people, plus businesses that employ about 55,000 workers. Five levee systems protect the region. The Corps issued

permission May 1 for drain restoration work, the first of eight planned phases of the overall project.

Source: http://www.stltoday.com/news/local/illinois/timetable-set-to-finish-metro-east-levee-work-in/article_7b604691-7992-5446-a208-79fc261d1bc6.html

53. May 1, New Philadelphia Times-Reporter – (Ohio) New tools to measure seepage at Zoar Levee. Work to begin the installation of new instrumentation for measuring seepage at the Zoar Levee in Ohio will begin soon, according to the New Philadelphia Times-Reporter May 1. TAB Construction of Canton will build a ditch and weir at the base of a gravel berm near the pump station on the levee. If there is seepage, the water will go into the ditch and be channeled into the weir to measure the depth of the water and speed, a geotechnical engineer with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers said. The project will cost \$66,800, according to a public-affairs officer for the Corps and is set to be complete by September 30. The Corps classified the levee's need for repairs as urgent and compelling following a flood in 2008, which revealed problems with the structure.

Source: http://www.cantonrep.com/newsnow/x1018076350/New-tools-to-measure-seepage-at-Zoar-Levee

54. *May 1, KTVB 7 Boise* – (Idaho) **Flows along the Boise River top flood stage.** The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Bureau of Reclamation plans to increase flows from Lucky Peak Dam in Idaho to help reduce the risk of severe flooding on the Boise River during the coming weeks, KTVB 7 Boise reported May 1. According to the U.S. Geological Survey, the Boise River is at about 0.5 feet above flood stage. Flows from Lucky Peak will be increased by 500 cubic feet per second (cfs) by May 2, which is expected to cause the river to rise about 3 to 4 inches at the Glenwood Bridge. Record rainfall and predicted storms later in the week of April 30 are spurring water managers' decision to increase the flows to maintain storage capacity and protect downstream areas from flooding. Rapid snow melt at higher elevations is causing concern about flood risks, and putting more runoff into streams and rivers. Current water storage in the Boise River reservoirs — Lucky Peak, Arrowrock, and Anderson Ranch dams — is about 90 percent of capacity. Some homes and businesses may experience water in their basements due to subterranean water level increases.

Source: http://www.ktvb.com/home/Flows-along-the-Boise-River-top-flood-stage-149702145.html



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